

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EB/CSB/OSB:JRGRAHAME:CEK

APPROVED BY EB/CSB/OSB:ADBRAMANTE

NEA/INS:RMORLEY

USDA/SEC:JDAHALL (SUBS)

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R 120349Z FEB 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: USINJC, EAGR, US, IN

SUBJECT: JOINT COMMISSION: AGRICULTURAL INPUTS WORKING

-- GROUP AGENDA

REF: A) NEW DELHI 1880, B) STATE 15493, C) NEW DELHI 1490

1. DEPT. APPRECIATES EMBASSY CONCURRENCE IN SUGGESTED ADDITIONS TO AGENDA. U.S. SIDE OF WORKING GROUP HAS NOTED EMBASSY'S PREVIOUS COMMENTS ON EXISTING AGENDA (NEW DELHI 16840 OF DEC. 17, 1975) AND AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING WILL REFLECT THESE COMMENTS. OUR VIEWS ON SPECIFIC AGENDA POINTS RAISED BY EMBASSY IN REF (A) ARE:

(A) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE - USG TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE IN FOOD AND FERTILIZER PRODUCTION WAS NEVER PROPOSED; RATHER THE INTERNATIONAL FERTILIZER DEVELOPMENT CENTER (IFDC) AGREED TO CONSIDER GOI REQUESTS FOR SUCH ASSISTANCE, WHEN PRE-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SENTED. THIS BALL WILL REMAIN IN THE INDIAN COURT.

(B) JOINT RESEARCH - WE AGREE THAT THE QUESTION OF U.S. HELD RUPEE-FINANCED RESEARCH BE TRANSFERRED TO THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SUBCOMMISSION. HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE THAT THE WORKING GROUP, WHICH INCLUDES IFDC REPRESENTATION, AND IS

RESPONSIBLE FOR AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION, IS THE BEST VEHICLE FOR THE PURSUIT OF IFDC-GOI JOINT AGRICUL-

TURAL RESEARCH. OF COURSE, DEPT. WILL COORDINATE THESE RESEARCH ACTIVITIES CLOSELY WITH S&T SUBCOMMISSION, IN ORDER AVOID INCONSISTENCIES AND DUPLICATION.

(C) THIRD COUNTRY JOINT VENTURES - WE INTEND TO EMPHASIZE LIMITATIONS OF GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT INVOLVEMENT IN THIS FIELD, NOTING THAT THE JOB OF SELLING INDIAN GOODS AND SERVICES REMAINS THAT OF THE GOI AND INDIAN FIRMS. NONETHELESS, IN SOME THIRD COUNTRIES, INDO-U.S. PRIVATE SECTOR COOPERATION MAKES SENSE AND BOTH GOVERNMENTS SHOULD BE PREPARED TO GIVE APPROPRIATE SUPPORT TO THIS DEVELOPMENT.

2. EMBASSY WILL RECALL THAT THE INDIAN EMBASSY HAS ALREADY APPROACHED US ABOUT DATES AND AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING OF AGRICULTURAL INPUTS WORKING GROUP (REF B) AND HAS ASKED THE U.S. SIDE TO PREPARE DRAFT AGENDA THIS TIME. REF (C) ASKED DEPT. TO CABLE EMBASSY DRAFT AGENDA FOR THE NEXT WORKING GROUP MEETING BEFORE PASSING IT TO INDIANS. STATE 27400 WAS IN RESPONSE TO THAT REQUEST. OUR NEXT STEP WILL BE TO PASS THE DRAFT AGENDA TO THE INDIAN EMBASSY. WE BELIEVE THAT THIS PROCEDURE IS FULLY CONSISTENT WITH OUR AGREED UPON QUOTE LET THE INDIANS COME TO US END QUOTE THEOLOGY. WE ARE NOT JUMPING GUNS. INGERSOLL

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